

surface; with thick ($10\ \mu$) chitinous inner shell and a single layer of amphidisks embedded in a vesicular layer.

Spicules: slender oxeas (fig. 3) $288 \times 8\ \mu$, curved, attenuating gradually, smooth or finely and sparsely spined; tornote oxeas (figs. 4, 5) $240 \times 12\ \mu$, smooth or finely spined.

Gemmule spicules: amphidisks (figs. 6-8) $35.6\ \mu$ long, shaft $4.3\ \mu$ thick, smooth or with one or several spines; diameter of deeply incised disks $24.3\ \mu$; with a knob at centre of disk.

Numerous developmental forms scattered in the tissues of the sponge.

Hab. Valkenberg Vlei, near Cape Town (*J. Stuart Thomson*).

There are seven specimens of this sponge, all encrusting, the largest being 5 cm. long and .5 cm. thick. The chief point of interest lies in a comparison with the typical European form. In the latter the subtornote oxeas (fig. 9) are considerably longer and thicker, viz. $320 \times 20\ \mu$; the amphidisks (figs. 10, 11) are much shorter, viz. $18.5\ \mu$, with disks 21.4 in diameter and shafts 4.5 thick; lastly, the gemmules are smaller, on an average about $.36 \times .31$ mm. These differences led me at first to regard the Cape specimens as representatives of a new species, but I ultimately came to regard them as belonging to a new strongly marked variety of *Ephydatia fluviatilis*.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES.

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A USEFUL periodical, recently commenced under the editorship of the energetic Imperial Entomologist, Prof. H. Maxwell-Lefroy, F.E.S., F.Z.S. The following parts have already appeared:—

Vol. I. No. I. The Bombay Locust.

II. The more important Insects injurious to Indian Agriculture.

Both by Prof. Maxwell-Lefroy.

III. The Indian Surface Caterpillars of the Genus *Agrotis*. By Prof. Maxwell-Lefroy and his Assistant, C. C. Ghosh, B.A.

IV. Individual and Seasonal Variations in *Helopeltis theivora*, Waterhouse, with Description of a new Species of *Helopeltis*. By Harold H. Mann, D.Sc., Scientific Officer, Indian Tea Association.

The following is announced as in the press:—

V. The Coccidæ attacking the Tea-plant in India and Ceylon. By E. E. Green, F.E.S., and Harold H. Mann, D.Sc.